



Department of Energy
National Nuclear Security Administration
Office of the General Counsel
P. O. Box 5400
Albuquerque, NM 87185



March 7, 2019

SENT VIA EMAIL: 70178-07950531@requests.muckrock.com

Mr. Martin Pfeiffer
MuckRock News
DEPT MR 70178
411A Highland Ave
Somerville, MA 02144-2516

RECEIPT OF FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

Dear Mr. Pfeiffer:

This letter acknowledges the receipt of your March 3, 2019 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request. You requested copies of reports, technical assessments, analyses, presentations, and similar records related to the use or usability of non-metallic plutonium in nuclear explosives. You also request that the search include records examining or discussing the use or usability of plutonium oxide(s) (e.g., PuO₂) for nuclear explosive purposes.

Your request was received in this office on March 5, 2019.

It is the practice of the National Nuclear Security Administration, in accordance with the Departmental policy, to process FOIA requests in the approximate order of the date received by this office. Your request is out for a search for the responsive record(s). A number of requests received prior to yours are pending, and your request will be processed in turn. We will make every effort to respond to your request as quickly as possible. Please note that for fee purposes, "unusual circumstances" as defined in the Open Government Act of 2007 occur, as there is a need to search for or collect records from facilities geographically separated from this office. We estimate that we will not be able to provide responsive records in 20 working days, as we need more time to complete the search, review the record(s) for release, and prepare a response to you, as some requests, depending on the volume of records, the complexity of the search, and/or the sensitivity of the subject matter, require additional time to complete. Reformulating or otherwise narrowing the scope of your request may result in a quicker processing time.

In your FOIA submission, you agreed to pay fees up to \$30 for processing your request, but you also asked to be categorized under the "educational institution" fee status. We will process your request under the "educational" fee status and will notify you if the fees exceed \$30.00.

If you have questions concerning the processing of your request, please contact me by e-mail at Erica.White@nnsa.doe.gov, or write to the address above. Please reference Control Number FOIA 19-00125-EW.

You may also contact NNSA's FOIA Public Liaison, John Weckerle, FOIA Officer, Office of the General Counsel, at 1-866-747-5994, or by mail at Department of Energy, National Nuclear Security Administration, Office of the General Counsel, PO Box 5400, Albuquerque, NM, 87185 for further assistance and to discuss any aspect of your request. Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, e-mail at ogis@nara.gov; telephone at (202) 741-5770; toll free at 1 877-684-6448; or facsimile at (202) 741-5769.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Erica White".

Erica White
FOIA/PA Specialist